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SENATE MEMORIAL 6

49TH LEGISLATURE - STATE OF NEW MEXICO - FIRST SESSION, 2009

INTRODUCED BY

Stephen H. Fischmann

A MEMORIAL

URGING THE FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION TO CHANGE THE
COVERAGE AREA FOR TELEVISION BROADCASTING IN THE LAS CRUCES-EL
PASO TELEVISION VIEWING AREA.

WHEREAS, the federal communications commission mandates
that television stations in El Paso, Texas, encompass the
geographic area of Las Cruces, New Mexico; and

WHEREAS, this mandate creates a problem for Las Cruces
viewers, in that El Paso news coverage is the only news
coverage available to them; and

WHEREAS, local television news coverage of events not
only from Las Cruces, but from surrounding New Mexico cities as
well, is vitally important to Las Cruces viewers; and

WHEREAS, developments in New Mexico government, political
offices and culture are not newsworthy in Texas but are of

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1 immediate interest and importance to New Mexicans; and

2 WHEREAS, even in border areas, such as that between Las
3 Cruces and El Paso, there is a need for critical, state-focused
4 information;

5 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE STATE
6 OF NEW MEXICO that the federal communications commission be
7 urged either to narrow the broadcast area for the Las Cruces-El
8 Paso television viewing area so that Las Cruces can have its
9 own broadcasting sphere of influence or mandate that timely,
10 effective, state-specific news coverage of New Mexico be
11 included in Las Cruces-El Paso television news broadcasts; and

12 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of this memorial be
13 transmitted to the federal communications commission and to all
14 broadcast news media in El Paso, Texas.